

filtrate obtained from a suitable washing stage of brown stock preferably produced by an alkaline cooking process is treated with an oxidizing chemical prior to the oxygen stage following brown stock washing.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF INVENTION

In the oxygen stage carried out in medium consistency range, the amount of filtrate per one kg of pulp is 6 – 9 kg, and thus the properties of the filtrate have an essential effect on reactions which the pulp is subjected to in the oxygen stage, as also in the bleaching later on. So, the properties of the filtrate surrounding the pulp may have a significant effect on the chemical treatments carried out on pulp and also the disadvantageous reactions that the pulp is exposed to.

Please change the paragraphs on page 9, line 18 through page 10, line 2 to read as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the following, the method and apparatus according to the invention are described in more detail with reference to the appended figures, of which

Fig. 1 is a schematic illustration of a prior art method,

Fig. 2 illustrates a pulp treatment method according to a preferred embodiment of the invention, and

Fig. 3 illustrates a pulp treatment method according to a second preferred embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Fig. 1 is a schematic illustration of a prior art method of treating/bleaching pulp, which method is more precisely described in FI patent application 961856. The pulp is typically kraft pulp, and the consistency thereof in pipe line 10 is typically about 6 – 18%. The pulp may alternatively be treated first in one or several first bleaching stage/s 11 typically using chlorine-free bleaching chemical, preferably oxygen, and after that the pulp is washed in a first wash 12, wherein a first washing liquid is fed via feeding conduit 13, and the filtrate is discharged from the wash 12 via pipe line 14. Filtrate